(e) if the answer to part (c) above in negative what is the justification for arbitrary hike by the manufacturers themselves; and

(f) what measures Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that (i) the arbitrary hike is not implemented; (ii) steps should be taken to roll them back; and (iii) the guilty, if any, are suitably punished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) According to the information supplied by the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association, tyre companies have increased the prices of various categories of tyres in November—December, 1990 between 3 to 7.5 per cent to absorb the increase in production cost of tyres due to increase in the prices of various raw materials.

(c) to (f) There is no statutory control over the prices of automotive tyres. As such, tyre companies do not require Government's approval to go in for a price rise. However, the Government have placed specified categories of truck and bus tyres under OGL, at a reduced rate of duty for import by bulk consumers to keep a check on prices of these tyres. To encourage creation of fresh capacity for the manufacture of automotive tyres and tubes, the industry has been exempted from licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, and the application of Sections 21 & 22 of the MRTP Act. Government have also ensured maximisation of tyre production through continuous monitoring and regular interaction with the Industry.

Proposal for more Low Power Transmitters in Gujarat

490. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have made a proposal for 51 more low power transmitters to cover remaining areas of the State for T.V. Transmission; and

(b) if so, by when the same is likely to be covered under T.V. Transmission programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal to this effect was received some time back.

(b) It is the endeavour of the Government to expand Doordarshan network in the State, as expeditiously as possiblue, depending upon the availability of funds for the purpose.

Establishment of High Power Transmitter in Pavagadh, Gujarat

491. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat have submitted a proposal to the Government for establishement of a high power transmitter on the Hills of Pavagadh, District Junagarh; and

(b) if so, what action has so far been taken to provide such a High Power Transmitter at Pavagadh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) A request for the establishment of a high power TV transmitter at Pavagadh in Panchamahal district of Gujarat has been received from the Government of Gujarat.

(b) While there is no approved scheme at present to establish a TV transmitter at Pavagadh, it is the constant endeavour of the Government